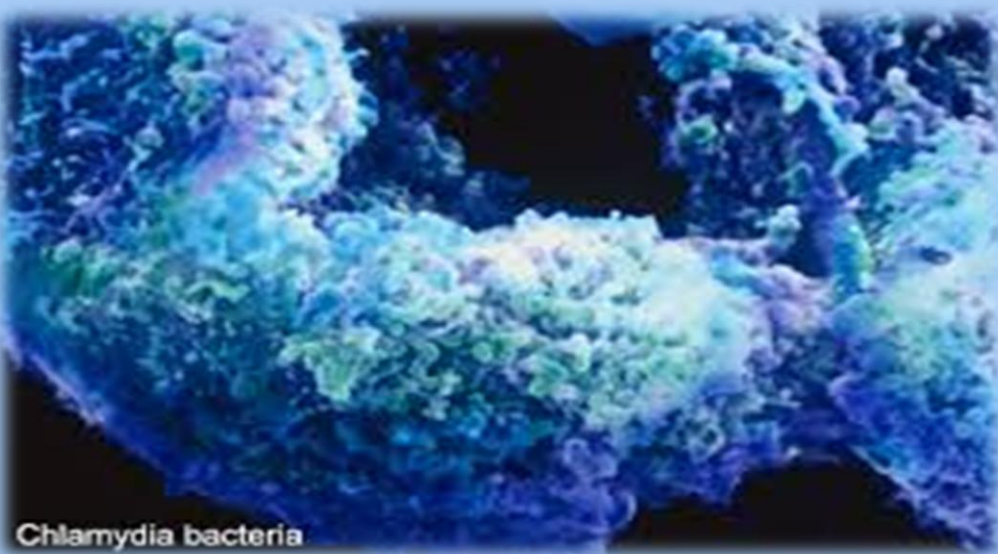


# Chlamydia

## **Background:**

Chlamydia (*klah MIH dee ah*) is an infection caused by a kind of bacteria that is passed during sexual contact. It is the most common sexually transmitted bacterial infection in the United States and in Yuma County. About 860 women and men become infected with Chlamydia every year in Yuma County. It is especially common among women and men under 25 years of age. Chlamydia is more than ten times as common as gonorrhea and more than 30 times as common as syphilis<sup>1</sup>. Chlamydia can infect the penis, vagina, cervix, anus, urethra, eye, or throat. It can also spread from a woman to her fetus during birth.



**Symptoms:** Some of the most common symptoms of Chlamydia include:

- Burning during urination
- Penile/Vaginal discharge
- Lower abdominal pain
- Pain/discomfort during sex
- Testicular pain
- Frequent urination

**Testing:** A provider may use a swab or other instrument to take cell samples from the penis, cervix, urethra, or anus. You can also have your urine tested.

**Treatment:** Chlamydia can be treated with antibiotics usually over the course of a 7-day period. Abstaining from sex during this period is recommended and treatment of sexual partners is necessary to prevent re-infection or further spread of the disease. Chlamydia if left untreated can lead to serious health problems.

## **Chlamydia at a Glance**

- A common sexually transmitted disease
- Often has no symptoms
- Easily treated
- Easily spread with or without symptoms
- Condoms offer good protection
- Can cause infertility if left untreated

## Who is at risk?

Anyone who is sexually active is at risk for getting Chlamydia. People under the age of 24 are at increased risk for contracting chlamydia because of common biological and behavioral factors among young people. Other risk factors can include:

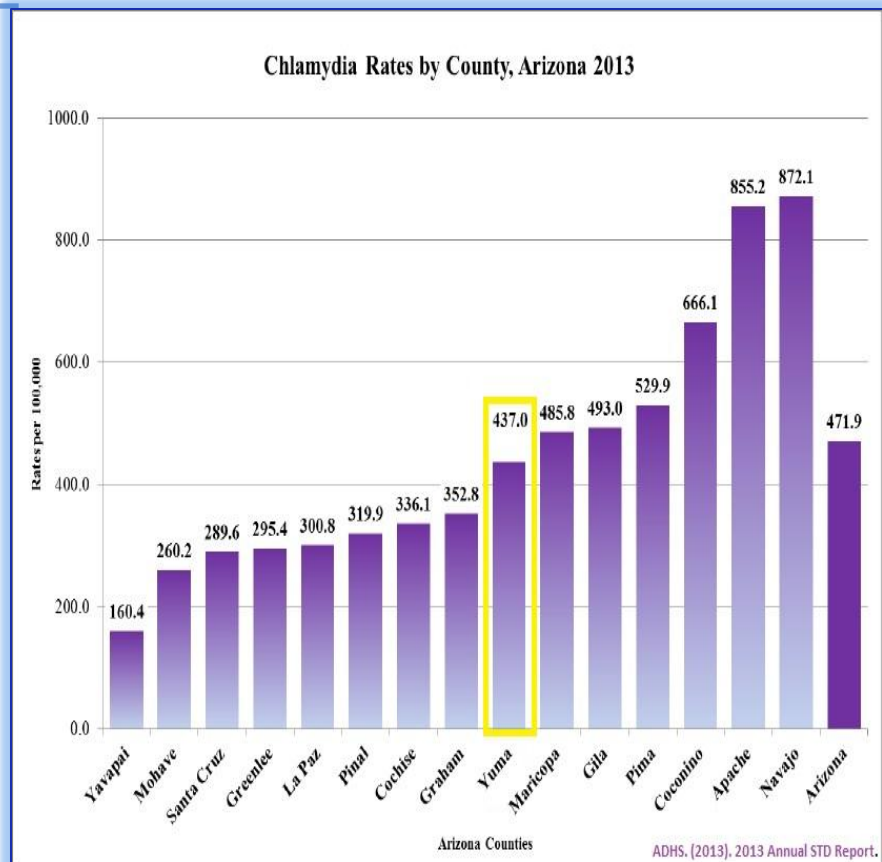
- Multiple sex partners
- History of Prior STD
- Not using a condom consistently

## Prevention:

If you choose to have vaginal or anal intercourse, use female or latex condoms every time. Regular screenings with a health provider can reduce the risk of infection.

## Chlamydia in Yuma County:

Chlamydia accounted for 82% of all confirmed STD cases in 2014. The majority of these cases were identified among Yuma residents between the ages of 14 and 29. In 2013, the population-adjusted rate of Chlamydia in Yuma County was 34.7% higher than the State rate. Similar to nationwide trends, Yuma County females are disproportionately affected by Chlamydia. Chlamydia rates have tended to be around three times higher in females than in males, which could be due to the automatic screening done at women check-up visits versus male self-reporting. Yuma County also experiences a high number of Chlamydia cases among residents over the age of 50.



## **Yuma County Public Health Department. (2015, July). Quarterly STD Program Report. <sup>1</sup>**

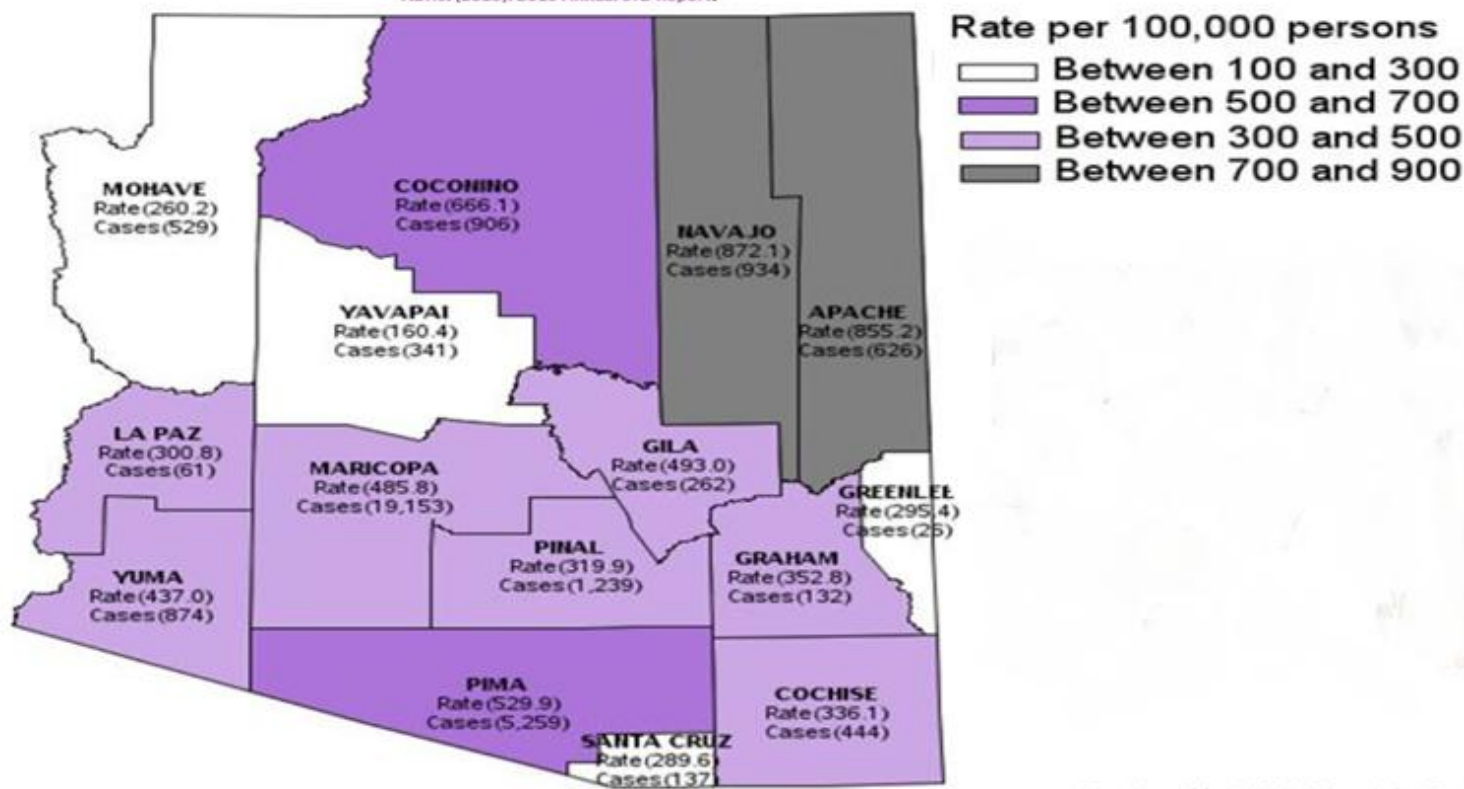
Disease	Apr-Jun14	Jul-Sep14	Oct-Dec14	Jan-Mar15	Apr-Jun15	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
EL Syph	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	6	2
LL Syph	8	8	5	4	12	23	11	25	28	22
C. Syph	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
N. Syph	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Gonorrhea	31	33	27	57	58	122	71	105	84	64
<b>Chlamydia</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>899</b>	<b>764</b>	<b>898</b>	<b>949</b>	<b>813</b>
HPV	0	0	0	0	0	7	51	55	50	73
HSV	8	8	3	11	5	30	103	131	102	74
HBV	0	5	2	3	1	15	20	16	22	24
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>1096</b>	<b>1024</b>	<b>1263</b>	<b>1241</b>	<b>1072</b>

## What is Yuma doing about it?

The Yuma County Health Department's STD Program investigates, monitors, tracks and follows-up with all STD related cases in Yuma County. In 2015, the Yuma County Health Department gave over 40 STD prevention presentations directed at the high risk populations in the community. Intervention plans that were carried out by the Health Department for 2014 included increased awareness and screenings, surveys conducted to identify prevention and service gaps, boosted efforts to contact positive partners, and improved electronic STD charting.

### Chlamydia Rates and Cases by County, Arizona 2013

ADHS. (2013). 2013 Annual STD Report.



Retrieved by YCPHSD on July 18, 2015

## Where Can I Get Tested?

The Yuma County Public Health Department offers STD testing services to all Yuma County residents. There is a \$25.00 fee for each visit that includes screening for Chlamydia and Gonorrhea infections. Treatment is also provided (as needed). If you are interested in additional testing please call the Health Department's STD Clinic for availability and pricing. STD testing is also offered by many other local clinics and private health care providers in the Yuma County area.

To contact the Health Department's STD Clinic or schedule an appointment, please call:  
**(928) 317-4540**

Or visit:

**2200 W. 28th St. Yuma, AZ 85364**

Hours of Operation:

**Monday-Friday from 8AM- 5PM** (excluding legal holidays)

For more information on Chlamydia and other STDs, please visit the Centers for Disease Control's website at the following URL address: <http://www.cdc.gov/std/chlamydia>